

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 and 11-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stevens in view of Reid. The Examiner rejected claims 10 and 20-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rudell in view of Reid. The Examiner has stated that Col. 7, lines 40-48 and 66-67 of Reid disclose the specific timer and indicator recited in the claims of the above entitled application. The Applicant respectfully traverses this contention.

The claims in the above entitled application specifically recite a timer that counts a time interval before activation of the motor, and an indicator that provides an indication of the time count. Reid does not provide an indication of a time interval before the motor is activated. Reading columns 7 and 8 of Reid in their entirety, the Applicant submits that the sounds, visual and/or vibration indicator occurs after the motor is reactivated. For example, Col. 7, lines 44-48 state:

"After the start button is pressed, the microcontroller program will set a delay and set the time. The ropes would then automatically start to turn. Another delay will take place giving the jumper time to get in the ropes and the counting of jumps will begin."

Reid discloses two delay periods. The first delay period is before the ropes turn. The second delay period is after the ropes turn and before the user jumps in. The language cited by the Examiner regarding the sounds/visual/vibration indicator relates to the second delay. That is when the user is to jump into the rope. This is further emphasized on Col. 8, lines 11 and 12, where it is stated that:

"The algorithm would be designed to send a signal just when the time was right to jump."

Reid does not disclose or suggest to provide an indication of when the motor is to be activated as recited in the claims of the above entitled application. Providing an indication of when the motor is to be activated allows the user to ready themselves to jump rope. Reid's solution to this problem is to provide an illuminated footpad to show where the user should stand in anticipation of the ropes beginning activated. The Applicant submits that Reid does not disclose or suggest the indication of the time interval before activation of the motor. Consequently, the combination of Rudell and Reid do not render obvious claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-26 of the above entitled application.

In view of the above it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-26 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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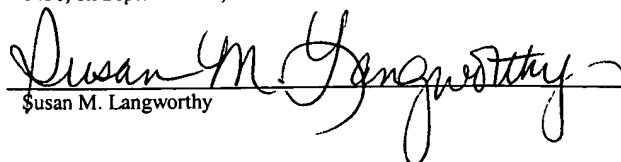
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